Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /040 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1191

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 3896

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB, CA

SUBJ: UAW-FORD CANADA NEGOTIATIONS TIED TO

U.S. SETTLEMENT

REF: OTTAWA 3708

FOLLOWING USUAL PRACTICE, UAW NEGOTIATIONS IN CANADA ARE PROCEEDING AT SNAIL'S PACE PENDING CONCLUSION OF MASTER AGREEMENT WITH FORD IN U.S. UAW CANADIAN RESEARCH DIRECTOR SAM GINDIN TOLD LABATT THAT DISCUSSIONS HERE HAVE TOUCHED ON RESTRUCTURING SUPPLEMENTAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT (SUB) PLAN AND KEY DEMAND OF MORE PAID TIME OFF THE JOB AS WELL AS REDUCING ABSENTEEISM. ONLY AFTER AGREEMENT IS REACHED IN U.S. WILL UAW CANADA (PROBABLY WITH HELP OF UAW PRESIDENT WOODCOCK) CONCENTREATE ON NEGOTIATING MAJOR MONETARY ISSUES HERE. ONCE SETTLEMENT WITH FORD IS ACHIEVED ON BOTH SIDES OF BORDER NEGOTIATIONS WITH GM AND CHRYSLER WILL BEGIN. GINDIN IS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC THAT ANTI-INFLATION BOARD WILL REACH "POLITICAL DECISION" APPROVING EVENTUAL COMPENSATION PACKAGE ON GROUNDS OF HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH IN AUTO INDUSTRY TRANSLATES INTO US-CANADA WAGE PARITY. UAW SOURCE CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT APPROXIMATELY 9,850 CANADIAN FORD AUTOWORKERS OUT OF 14,000 TOTAL ARE LAID OFF AS OF BEGINNING OF THIS WEEK DUE TO STRIKE IN U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENDERS

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